

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 03877 270921Z

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-02 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10

OES-05 HEW-06 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3215

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: WHO

SUBJECT: 28TH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY PROGRESS REPORT

1. FOLLOWING AM SESSIONS SATURDAY, MAY 24, 28TH WHA COMPLETED ITS SECOND WEEKS WITH PROGRESS UNEVEN AS BETWEEN COMMITTEES A AND B.

2. PLENARY: FOLLOWING ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS ADMITTING TONGA, NORTH VIETNAM AND MOZAMBIQUE OVER 100 MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN GENERAL DEBATE ON DG'S REPORT AND REPORT OF EXBD. USDEL COOPER MADE ONLY BRIEF SUMMARY OF FULL STATEMENT WHICH HE THEN ASKED BE INSERTED IN THE RECORD. HIS EXAMPLE ONLY MIDLY CONTAGIOUS. ASSEMBLY ELECTED BANGLADESH, FINLAND, MAURITANIA, RWANDA, YUGOSLAVIA, AUSTRALIA, CANADA AND SOMALIA TO EXBD AND SIX ADDITIONAL MEMBERS WILL BE ELEXED MAY 28 AS RESULT OF COMING INTO FORCE OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT INCREASING SIZE OF BOARD TO 30. EXPECTED DISTRIBUTION FOR NEW SEATS IS AFRICA (3), AMERICAS (1), EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (1) AND WESTERN PACIFIC (1). SOVIETS MAKING BID FOR EXTRA SEAT FOR EUROPE AND INDIA AND BANGLADESH CAMPAIGNING FOR EXTRA SEAT FOR SEASIA REGION ON BASIS LARGER POPULATION AND MASSIVE HEALTH NEEDS OF REGION. IN THIS

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 03877 270921Z

JOCKEYING SEAT FOR AMERICAS IS PROBABLY MOST IN JEOPARDY.

3. COMMITTEE A: MOVING SLOWLY THROUGH AGENDA ITEM

2.2.3 DETAILED REVIEW OF PROGRAM BUDGET FOR '76 AND '77 HAD REACHED SECTION 6.1 AT END OF SATURDAY'S SESSION. IT HAS ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS ON TROPICAL PARASITIC DISEASES, SMALLPOX, PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS AND LEPROSY CONTROL, MENTAL RETARDATION, SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED AND RHEUMATIC DISEASES, MYCOTIC DISEASES AND SCHISTOSOMIASIS. A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN DISCUSSIONS OF SCHISTOSOMIASIS INCLUDING PRC WHICH DETAILED THEIR EFFORTS CONTROL DISEASES AND GIVE CREDIT TO INSPIRATION OF POEM BY CHAIRMAN MAO. RESOLUTION CONTAINS ALL ELEMENTS SOUGHT BY USDEL INCLUDING STATEMENT OF WHO LEADERSHIP ROLE. COMMITTEE HAS SOME TWO DOZEN RESOLUTIONS STILL TO CONSIDER SOME WITH UNDESIRABLE POLITICAL CONTENT, E.G., AID TO INDOCHINA AND SOME WITH QUESTIONABLE PROGRAMMATIC DIRECTIONS TO DG.

4. COMMITTEE B: MAKING STEADIER PROGRESS THROUGH ITS

AGENDA. AT END OF ITS SATURDAY SESSION IT HAD COMPLETED CONSIDERATION OF ALL ITEMS INITIALLY ASSIGNED TO IT WITH EXCEPTION OF: 3.16.4 WHO ACTIVITIES RELATED TO DISASTER AND NATURAL CATASTROPHES (PARTIALLY COMPLETED); 3.16.5 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL AND 3.16 WHO'S HUMAN HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM. FOLLOWING COMPLETION THESE ITEMS, COMMITTEE B WILL BEGIN TO CONSIDER ITEMS TRANSFERRED TO IT FROM COMMITTEE A AGENDA BEGINNING WITH ITEM 2.4, PSYCHO FACTORS IN HEALTH AND 2.10, SAFE USE OF PESTICIDES.

AMONG HIGHLIGHTS OF COMMITTEE B ACTIONS:

- (A) APPROVAL SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES AS SUGGESTED BY DG AND APPROVED BY USDEL;
- (B) ADOPTED SCALE OF ASSESSMENT FOR '76 WHICH ASSESSES US AT 25.54 FOLLOWING STATEMENT OF RESERVATION BY USDEL IN COMMITTEE B (SEE SEPTEL);
- (C) INVOKED NO VOTE PROVISION OF ARTICLE 7 AGAINST DOMINICAN REPUBLIC WHO ABSENT AND MANY YEARS IN ARREARS;
- (D) DECIDED CONTINUE CURRENT PRACTICES OF UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 03877 270921Z

FINANCING WHO ACTIVITIES IN US DOLLARS AND SWISS FRANCS;

- (E) AUTHORIZED CONSTRUCTION NEW PRE-FABRICATED BUILDING (AND REJECTION OF NEW PERMANENT HEAD-QUARTERS) AS SUGGESTED BY DG AND APPROVED BY US;
- (F) RECOMMENDED NO CHANGE IN LEVEL OF WORKING CAPITAL FUND DESPITE SEVERE PRESSURES ON IT DUE TO SLOW PAYMENTS BY MEMBERS (PARTICULARLY US);

(G) APPROPRIATED FROM AVAILABLE MONIES IN REAL ESTATE FUND \$2,185,915 FOR CONSTRUCTION COSTS AT REGIONAL OFFICES FOR AFRICA, EUROPE, SEASIA AND AT GENEVA;

(H) APPROVED STUDY BY EXBOARD OF PROGRESSIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF CHINESE AS WORKING LANGUAGE OF WHA, EXBD. THIS SUPPORTED BY USDEL. USDEL WAS LONE ABSTENTION ON RESOLUTION FOR INCLUSION OF ARABIC AS WORKING LANGUAGE OF WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION WITH ARAB STATES AGREEING TO PAY COSTS FOR FIRST THREE YEARS. US ABSTENTION BASED ON UNWILLINGNESS OF ARABS TO FOLLOW ORDERLY PROCEDURES BEING USED WITH RESPECT TO "GRADUAL" INTRODUCTION OF CHINESE;

(I) RESULTS OF ITEM HEALTH ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEE AND DISPLACED PERSONS IN ME SENT DEPT. BY SEPTTEL;

(J) USDEL WITH HELP OF UK SUCCEEDED IN BLUNTING EFFORT TO BROADEN ACTION AGAINST "COLONIAL POWERS" IN AFRICA TO ALL OTHER REGIONS. ACTION OF AFRICAN REGION IN BANNING PARTICIPATION OF STATES NOT HAVING THEIR SEAT OF GOVERNMENT IN REGION WILL BE DRAWN TO ATTENTION OF OTHER REGIONS FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION;

(K) UNDER UN COORDINATION ITEMS RESOLUTIONS ON: COORDINATION, WPY, IWY AND WFC WERE ADOPTED. ONLY US AND CANADA SPOKE IN OPPOSITION TO RESOLUTION PROVIDING FIRST CLASS FARE AND PER DIEM FOR REP OF LIBERATION MOVEMENTS RECOGNIZED BY ARAB LEAGUE AND OAU. DALE

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